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PTO3730

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ACTION IIP-00

RELEASED IN FULL

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	WHA-00	EAP-00	UTED-00	VC-00	TEDE-00
	INR-00	IO-00	LAB-01	VCE-00	AC-01	OIC-02	PER-00
	ACE-00	SS-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	DRL-02	SAS-00	/006W

-----88D43D 191704Z /38

R 191515Z APR 02  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6813  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 001063

STATE FOR IIP/G/WHA, INR/R/MR, WHA/BSC, WHA/PD, INR/IAA  
AMEMBASSY FOR PAO, IO

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: OPRC, KMDR, KPAO, CI  
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: VENEZUELA

1. SUMMARY: ONLY ONE APRIL 19 DAILY RAN AN OPINION  
PIECE ON VENEZUELA. LEADING-CIRCULATION LA TERCERA  
CARRIED AN EDITORIAL POSITIVELY COMMENTING ON PRESIDENT  
LAGOS' DECISION TO SUPPORT CHAVEZ. WIRE STORIES RAN  
HEADLINES ON CARMONA'S REPLY TO STATEMENTS THAT HE CAN BE  
COMPARED TO PINOCHET, ON CHAVEZ' REMARKS THAT HE RESIGNED  
TO STOP FURTHER CIVIL UNREST, AND ON THEORIES OF  
CONSPIRACY CIRCULATING IN VENEZUELA. ONLY LA TERCERA RAN  
A HEADLINE ON THE U.S. ("BUSH WARNS CHAVEZ"). THE LOCAL  
PRESS FOCUSED ON PRESIDENT LAGOS' DECISION TO APPOINT A  
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NEW CHILEAN AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA AS A RESULT OF THE  
CURRENT DIPLOMAT'S SUPPORT FOR THE COUP.

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EDITORIAL  
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2. ON APRIL 19 LEADING-CIRCULATION, SANTIAGO DAILY LA  
TERCERA RAN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED "DIPLOMATIC DEFECTS."  
BLOCK QUOTE FOLLOWS.

"... IT'S EVIDENT THAT IT WAS A MISTAKE TO DENY THAT IT  
WAS A COUP AND TO LEGITIMIZE THE TRANSITORY GOVERNMENT...  
PRESIDENT LAGOS DID THE RIGHT THING BY QUICKLY CORRECTING

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS  
DATE/CASE ID: 30 AUG 2004 200400110

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THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION AND BY CALLING PRESIDENT CHAVEZ  
TO EXPRESS THE GOVERNMENT'S SUPPORT."

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WIRE STORY HEADLINES  
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3. LA TERCERA, APRIL 19: "EX-VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT  
(PEDRO CARMONA): 'I'M NOT A LIGHT PINOCHET -- ASSURES HE  
HAS DEMOCRATIC VOCATION."
4. LA TERCERA, APRIL 19: "BUSH WARNS CHAVEZ."
5. CONSERVATIVE, INFLUENTIAL, SANTIAGO NEWSPAPER-OF-  
RECORD EL MERCURIO, APRIL 19: "CHAVEZ: 'I SURRENDERED TO  
PREVENT A CIVIL WAR.'"
6. EL MERCURIO, APRIL 19: "CONSPIRACY THEORIES HAVE  
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VENEZUELAN CONFUSED."

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LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE  
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7. INDEPENDENT EL METROPOLITANO, APRIL 19: "(PRESIDENT)  
LAGOS WILL APPOINT NEW AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA."

BROWNFIELD

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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